

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 MBFR-03

GAC-01 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /128 W

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R 091055 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5736

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

ALL CSCE CAPITALS 121

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 0619

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MARCH 8 DISCUSSIONS OF PRINCIPLES OF INTERSTATE RELATIONS

BEGIN SUMMARY. UK OFFERED DRAFT OUTLINE OF PRINCIPLES MANDATE. THERE WAS GENERAL UNDERSTANDING THAT BRIEF GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THIS OUTLINE (BUT NO RPT NO EFFORT AT TEXTUAL REVISION) WOULD BE CURTAIN RAISER TO AN EFFORT TO DRAFT ACTUAL TEXT OF PRINCIPLES MANDATE EARLY NEXT WEEK IN INFORMAL SUBGROUP, WHILE FULL WORKING GROUP WOULD MOVE ON TO OTHER ELEMENTS IN BASKET ONE. END SUMMARY.

1. WORK OUTLINE. UK REP PRESENTED IN WORKING GROUP 7- POINT OUTLINE (TEXT SEPTEL) OF PRINCIPLES PORTION OF SECURITY MANDATE AND SAID THAT HE HOPED IT WOULD HELP ESTABLISH BASIC FRAME- WORK FOR SUBSEQUENT DRAFTING EXERCISE IN INFORMAL SUBGROUP. FRENCH PROPOSED THAT DELEGATES COMMENT, IF THEY WISH, ON THE BRITISH OUTLINE, POINT BY POINT, BUT WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO REDRAFT DOCUMENT. THERE WAS GENERAL UNDERSTANDING THAT BRITISH TEXT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED " NON- PAPER."

2. SOVIET AMBASSADOR MENDELEVICH ACCEPTED UK PROPOSAL IN PRINCIPLE AND DEFTLY TURNED IT INTO DEVICE FOR MOVING MORE RAPIDLY TOWARD DRAFTING. HE PROPOSED THREE CONDITIONS FOR SOVIET AGREEMENT TO DISCUSS PAPER: DISCUSSIONS WOULD NOT BIND DELEGATIONS TO ITS SPECIFIC TECTUAL FORMULATIONS; WOULD NOT CONSTI-
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TUTE AGREEMENT ON PROPER ORDER OF THE TOPICS TO APPEAR IN PRINCIPLES MANDATE; AND WOULD BE LAST GO ROUND ON THIS ISSUE BEFORE DRAFTING BEGAN IN SMALL GROUP. FRENCH AMBASSADOR (WHO HAD HITHERTO BEEN RETICENT ABOUT STARTING ACTUAL DRAFTING) SAID HE CONCURRED IN MENDELEVICH' S QUALIFICATIONS. IT WAS GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD THAT-- BARRING MAJOR AND UNFORESEEN OBJECTIONS TO UK NON- PAPER-- IT WOULD CONSTITUTE, TOGETHER WITH DELEGATION COMMENTS, BASIC BACKDROP AGAINST WHICH DRAFTING GROUP WOULD WORK, BEGINNING PERHAPS NEXT MONDAY AFTERNOON.

3. SOURCES OF PRINCIPLES. DUTCH REP ASKED FOR, AND RECEIVED, EXPLICIT ASSURANCES THAT MENDELEVICH' S COMMENTS ON UN DECLARATION ON STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, MADE DURING MARCH 7 WORKING SESSION (HELSINKI 602), WERE INDICATION OF SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO DEAL WITH HUMAN RIGHTS AND SELF- DETERMINATION, AND CONSTITUTE ALSO SOVIET RESPONSE TO PARAS 4 AND 5 (ANTI- BREZHNEV PORTION) OF ITALIAN DOCUMENT. IN THE PROCESS, MENDELEVICH SAID THAT SOVIETS HAD NO RPT NO OBJECTION TO DEALING WITH PRINCIPLE OF RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS. (COMMENT: OF THREE PRINCIPLES LISTED IN ITALIAN AND SWISS PAPERS, BUT NOT INCLUDED IN GDR LIST, THIS LATTER HAD BEEN THE ONLY ONE TO WHICH THE SOVIETS HAD NOT YET ADDRESSED THEMSELVES.)

4. IN MARCH 8 DINNER CONVERSATION WITH FRENCH AND ITALIAN REPS, US DELOFF WAS TOLD THAT THEY DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE INFORMAL DRAFTING EXERCISE IN SUBGROUP WILL PRODUCE AGREED TEXT VERY SOON; FRENCH REP WAS ESPECIALLY INSISTENT UPON POINT THAT EXERCISE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY PRODUCE A HEAVILY BRACKETED VERSION WHICH WOULD THEN GO BACK TO THE WORKING GROUP FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. BOTH SAW DISTINCT TACTICAL ADVANTAGE IN DELAYING FINAL AGREEMENT-- EVEN AD REFERENDUM-- ON PRINCIPLES, TO WHICH SOVIETS ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE, UNTIL WORKING GROUP HAD MOVED THROUGH THE TWO OTHER SUBSTANTIVE BASKETS. MENDELEVICH, ON OTHER HAND, MAY EXPECT THAT DRAFTING GROUP WILL BRING LARGELY AGREED TEXT BACK TO WORKING GROUP (OR PLENARY) IN FAIRLY SHORT ORDER.
PETERSON

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973HELSIN00619
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730323/aaaahfhp.tel
Line Count: 105
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <07-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971112
Subject: MARCH 8 DISCUSSIONS OF PRINCIPLES OF INTERSTATE RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR
To: ALL CSCE CAPITALS 121
EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC
WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005